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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/537,340	12/16/2005	Christopher John Holloway	Cardssafe1	3463
46064 7590 07/27/2007 LAU & ASSOCIATES, LLC MICHAEL N. LAU 2121 EISENHOWER AVENUE SUITE 503A ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER BOSWELL, CHRISTOPHER J	
			ART UNIT 3676	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/27/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/537,340	Applicant(s) HOLLOWAY ET AL.	
	Examiner Christopher Boswell	Art Unit 3676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 37-75 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 37 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 38-44, 50, 51, 67-71, 74 and 75 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 45-49, 52-66, 72 and 73 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 June 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/8/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 56 and 67 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 56 and 67 contain erroneous written matter, in claim 56, line 5 has the numeral 82 and claim 67 line 3 has the numeral 88. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 38-44, 50-51, 67-71 and 74-75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2005/0011423 to Mercier.

Mercier discloses a storage apparatus, comprising a containing means (3a) for containing, a sliding means (6) for sliding, and a storage means (2) for storing, wherein the sliding means is removably secured in the containing means (paragraph 30) and the containing means is removably secured to the storage means (paragraph 29), as in claim 38.

Mercier also discloses a key (the correct code entered into element 10) for releasing a locking action securing the sliding means to the containing means (paragraphs 39-43), as in claim 39, as well as the containing means has a front side (front of the containing means) and a

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back side (the rear side of the containing means), and one of the front side and the back side is insertable into the storage means (figure 7), as in claim 50.

Mercier further discloses a pair of push rods (12) for securing the containing means to the storage means and for releasing the containing means from the storage means (via elements 7), as in claim 40, wherein the containing means is formed by coupling a top part (the top half of the containing means) to a bottom part (the bottom half of the containing means) to render a pair of coincide slot (51) on two sides of the containing means, as in claim 41, and the top part has a pair of top slots (51) situated on a plurality of exterior sides of the top part (figure 7), as in claim 42, as well as, wherein the bottom part has an entry opening (opening for element 6), a web (the bottom surface of the containing means) and a pair of slots (51) and a pair of runners (the bottom shoulders of the slots) situated on exterior sides of the bottom part, a pair of locking arms (71) situated on the bottom part and each locking arm has a distal guide, an entry guide (52) and a lug (figures 4a-4c), as in claim 43, and where the pair of coincide slots are formed by aligning the pair of top slots with the pair of bottom slots (figures 4a-4c and 7), as in claim 44.

Mercier additionally discloses a security apparatus, comprising: a top part (the top half of 3a) having a pair of top slots (top portion of slots 51) on it sides, and a bottom part (the bottom half of 3a) having a pair of bottom slots (bottom portion of slots 51) on its sides, a web (the bottom surface of 3a), a pair of runners (the bottom shoulders that form slot 51), an entry opening (52) leading to a pair of locking arms (71) each with a distal guide, wherein a box (3a) is formed by coupling the top part to the bottom part and forming a pair of coincide slots (51) by having the pair of top slots coincide with the pair of bottom slots (figure 7), as in claim 51.

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Mercier also discloses the pair of locking arms each further comprises a proximal guide (channel in element 7), as in claim 67, wherein the pair of locking arms each further comprises a lug (end portion of element 71), as in claim 68, as well as the lug is located anywhere between the distal guide and the proximal guide (figures 4a-4c), as in claim 69, and a placement of one of the pair of lugs on one of the pair of locking arms may be different from a placement of another of the pair of lugs on another of the pair of locking arms (depending on the size and shape of the box 3; figures 8a-8f), as in claim 70, wherein a size of one of the pair of lugs on one of the pair of locking arms may be different from a size of another of the pair of lugs on another of the pair of locking arms (depending on the size and shape of the box 3; figures 8a-8f), as in claim 71.

Mercier further discloses adjacent the entry opening is a pair of parallel webs (11) capable of supporting a key (the key being the access code for control system 10), as in claim 74, as well as the pair of locking arms are situated on the bottom part by mounting onto a pair of circular mounting ends (figures 4a-4c), as in claim 75.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 37 is allowed.

Claims 45-49, 52-66, 72 and 73 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:
The claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not teach or render obvious the combination set forth, including that of the

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sliding mean comprising a pair of channels each defined by a pair of webs, a distal end of the sliding means comprises a snap with a clip engageable by a tab, the snap is situated in-between a pair of returns each accompanied with a guide web, as well as a key enables withdrawal of the slide from the box once the pair of outwardly extending projections of the key engages the pair of lugs as the distal end of the key displaces the tab.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to multi-component locking receptacles:

U.S. Patent Number 7,028,621 to Maercier, U.S. Patent Number 5,905,446 to Benore et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,870,910 to Specht, U.S. Patent Number 5,317,888 to Towns, U.S. Patent Number 4,638,746 to Ishigure, U.S. Patent Number 3,970,010 to Cantley, U.S. Patent Number 1,171,185 to Fox et al., U.S. Patent Number 845,815 to Pfleger.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Boswell whose telephone number is (571) 272-7054. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 4:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jennifer Gay can be reached on (571) 272-7029. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Christopher Boswell
Examiner
Art Unit 3676

CJB CB
July 23, 2007